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innate, and are gained by trial and frequent repetition, and if lost or weakened or deranged, are to be restored in the same way. The proper action of reflexes is interfered with if pain comes to accompany the use of any set of muscles. A man's leg is injured, it hurts him to walk as he used, consciousness interferes and he walks from his volitional instead of his reflex centres, till perhaps new adjustments of reflexes are formed. He has acquired a trick of walking which may long outlast the injury that caused it. To walk as he used, he must re-educate his reflexes. Some cripples have never had their reflexes brought into the best working condition. These propositions, which have a very wide application, Dr. Taylor illustrates from his own orthopedic practice, where their application is most direct. He gives thirteen cases where education or re-education of the deranged reflexes was attended with the greatest success, and several in which the cure must have seemed little less than miraculous. The process of education aims to give the unused centres the stimuli they need, and through them to bring about the reinvigoration of the whole. The means used are chiefly movements, passive and active (the first executed by steam power), and appropriate rest. What the author wishes "to emphasize as the central idea of this paper, is the development and use of the associated reflexes, as a practical means of modifying nerve-centre function."

Les Odeurs du corps humain dans l'état de santé et dans l'état de maladie.
E. MONIN. Paris, 1886. 128 pp., 2d ed.

The subtitle of this little book (*Un nouveau chapitre de sémiologie*) gives its scope. The aim is, by gathering together the scattered observations on the subject, to rehabilitate a diagnostic help now unfortunately too little used. Odors are the evidences of subtle changes, and as such are of high value to the physician whose sense of smell is keen and educated enough to make use of them. Experiments noted in the last number but one of this journal show the extreme fineness of this sense—not to mention the marvellous discriminations of savages and certain deaf mutes. The author treats of the odors of the skin and its appendages, of the breath, of the sputa, of the vomits and eructions, of the fæces and intestinal gases, of the urine, of the female genital organs (the odors of the male organs are less important and treated in other sections), and of purulence and gangrene. The description of these odors is, of course, obscured, as any treatment of the subject must be, by the lack of definite descriptive terms. Though the book was written for physicians, it contains matter of interest to the psychologist; the part that odors play in the sex-functions of plants and animals gives them, at the very least, an evolutionary interest. The book deals with clinical facts, and is as good in its way as the theories of Jäger are bad in theirs.

Essai de Psychologie Générale. CHARLES RICHTER. Paris, 1887. 193 pp.
F. Alcan.

In this little book the editor of the *Revue Scientifique* has aimed to present the general principles of psychology unobscured by detail and in systematic form. The style is lucid. Working from a physiological standpoint, he develops mind from irritability, one of the fundamental properties of living matter, through reflex action and instinct up to consciousness, memory and volition. The conclusion is an extension to men of the Cartesian mechanical theory of animals.